

REMARKS

Claims 15-18 are in the application, with Claims 1-14 having been cancelled.

An amended Abstract has also been furnished.

Support for new Claims 15-18 is found in the specification, claims and drawings in this case as originally filed. The cancelled claims stand rejected under 35 USC §102 inter alia, over Kitada. The fact of the matter is, however, that Kitada neither teaches or suggests Applicant's claimed invention as set forth in Claims 15-18, because Kitada does not teach operation of an internal combustion engine in a hybrid electric vehicle with alternating cylinders to control either temperature build or the operating temperature of the engine in the event that the battery charge is low and the engine temperature is high, as compared with thresholds for these variables. As a result, each of the claims now in this case i.e. Claims 15-18 are believed to be allowable and should be passed to issue. Such action is earnestly solicited.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Box Non-Fee, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 26th day of September, 2002.



Daphne Poh-Beyerlein